



Increasing the pace, expanding the scope, and improving the effectiveness of conservation

November 5, 2013

U.S. EPA Region 10
1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900
Seattle, WA 98101

To whom it may concern,

The Willamette Partnership is a non-profit organization with the mission to expand the pace, scope, and effectiveness of conservation and restoration in the Willamette Basin and American West. On December 2nd and 3rd, 2013, Willamette Partnership will be hosting a workshop in Union, Washington as part of the process to develop a Joint Regional Agreement on Water Quality Trading. This work is funded by a Conservation Innovation Grant awarded by US Department of Agriculture's Natural Resource Conservation Service. EPA is not receiving any funds under the grant but agreed to participate in the project. The final product of the grant is expected to be a document supported by EPA Region 10, and the environmental agencies of Idaho, Oregon, and Washington, that provides a consistent framework for how water quality trading will be implemented in the region, and serving as guidance to the states. EPA will not be performing any regulatory work as a part of this project but will instead be offering its expertise and opinions on various program elements as they relate to the Clean Water Act and its implementing regulations.

We are specifically requesting the participation at the December meeting of Claire Schary, Susan Polsom, Dustan Bott, and Bill Stewart whose areas of expertise in the TMDL, NPDES, and enforcement programs are integral to the discussion planned at this meeting. This is the fourth meeting of several important meetings needed in 2013 to further this project. Collectively, this group represents key aspects and input related to water quality considerations.

The Willamette Partnership is providing full sponsorship of all meals for EPA participants with funds that are completely separate from CIG funds and CIG associated matching funds. The following represents and itemized accounting of the costs that WP will be sponsoring:

Meals (Dec. 2nd & 3rd)

Bill Stewart, Claire Schary, Dustin Bott, and Susan Polsom

\$160.00 ea.

TOTAL \$640.00

Please let me know if there is any further information that we can provide.

Sincerely,

Bobby Cochran
Executive Director
Willamette Partnership